OHSH-315 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Ryuzo UENO, et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned Group:

Filed: Concurrently Examiner:

FOR: CRYSTALLINE MIXTURE SOLID COMPOSITION AND PREPARATION THEREOF

Date: January 14, 2002

The Hon. Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the herewith filed application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 3 and 9-12 in their entirety and without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

--13. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 1 which comprises 0.01 to 1.5 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol.

14. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 2 which comprises 0.01 to 1.5 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-

1,1-sorbitol.

15. (New) The process for producing a crystalline mixture solid composition according to claim 6, wherein the hydrophilic solvent is ethanol.

16. (New) The process for producing a crystalline mixture solid composition according to claim 7, wherein the hydrophilic solvent is ethanol.

17. (New) The process for producing a crystalline mixture solid composition according to claim 8, wherein the hydrophilic solvent is ethanol.

18. (New) The process for producing a crystalline mixture solid composition according to claim 6, wherein the hydrophilic solvent is an ethanol aqueous solution having a concentration of 60 to 90%.

19. (New) The process for producing a crystalline mixture solid composition according to claim 7, wherein the hydrophilic solvent is an ethanol aqueous solution having a concentration of 60 to 90%.

20. (New) The process for producing a crystalline mixture solid composition according to claim 8, wherein the hydrophilic solvent is an ethanol aqueous solution having a concentration of 60 to 90%.

21. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 1 produced by a process comprising the steps of supplying a composition comprising 50 to 80 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, 1 to 50 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and 0.01

to 20 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol into a kneader to knead and cool it so as to produce a composition, mixing the composition with a hydrophilic solvent, and separating solid matter from a liquid (the above wt% is based on the total weight of the α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol).

22. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 1 produced by a process comprising the steps of supplying a composition comprising 50 to 80 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, 1 to 50 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and 0.01 to 20 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol into a kneader having a thin and long cooling/kneading zone to knead and cool it, extruding the kneaded product through a punching plate, cooling and grinding the extruded molded product to produce a powdery crystalline mixture solid composition, mixing the composition with a hydrophilic solvent, and separating solid matter from a liquid (the above wt% is based on the total weight of the α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol).

23. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 1 produced by a process comprising the steps of mixing a hydrophilic solvent with an aqueous solution which comprises 50 to 80 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, 1 to 50 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and 0 to 20 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol, and separating the formed precipitate from a liquid (the above wt% is based on the total

weight of the α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol).

24. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 2 produced by a process comprising the steps of supplying a composition comprising 50 to 80 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, 1 to 50 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and 0.01 to 20 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol into a kneader to knead and cool it so as to produce a composition, mixing the composition with a hydrophilic solvent, and separating solid matter from a liquid (the above wt% is based on the total weight of the α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol).

25. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 2 produced by a process comprising the steps of supplying a composition comprising 50 to 80 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, 1 to 50 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and 0.01 to 20 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol into a kneader having a thin and long cooling/kneading zone to knead and cool it, extruding the kneaded product through a punching plate, cooling and grinding the extruded molded product to produce a powdery crystalline mixture solid composition, mixing the composition with a hydrophilic solvent, and separating solid matter from a liquid (the above wt% is based on the total weight of the α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol).

26. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of

claim 2 produced by a process comprising the steps of mixing a hydrophilic solvent with an aqueous solution which comprises 50 to 80 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, 1 to 50 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and 0 to 20 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol, and separating the formed precipitate from a liquid (the above wt% is based on the total weight of the α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol).

27. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 21 which comprises 0.01 to 1.5 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol.

28. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 22 which comprises 0.01 to 1.5 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol.

29. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 23 which comprises 0.01 to 1.5 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol.

30. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 24 which comprises 0.01 to 1.5 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol.

31. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 25 which comprises 0.01 to 1.5 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol.

32. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 26 which comprises 0.01 to 1.5 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol.

33. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 4 produced by a process comprising the steps of mixing a hydrophilic solvent with an aqueous solution which comprises 50 to 80 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, 1 to 50 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and 0 to 20 wt% of α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol, and separating the formed precipitate from a liquid (the above wt% is based on the total weight of the α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-mannitol, α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,6-sorbitol and α-D-glucopyranosyl-1,1-sorbitol).

34. (New) The crystalline mixture solid composition of claim 33 which has a specific surface area of 0.1 to 5.0 m^2/g.--

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment prior to examination of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

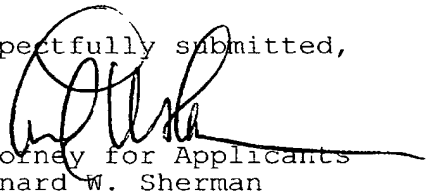
Claims 1-12 are currently pending in the subject application. Claims 3 and 9-12 have been cancelled and new claims 13-34 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 13-34 are now pending in this application.

Claims 3 and 9-12 have been cancelled to eliminate improper multiple dependencies and the multiple dependent claim fee and new claims 13-34 correspond to claims 3 and 9-12 rewritten in single dependent form.

No new matter has been added and applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for

allowance and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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